

est in the birds of the island among the residents and the author is to be congratulated upon an admirable piece of work.— W. S.

**Hersey's 'List of Birds Observed in Alaska and Siberia.'**<sup>1</sup>— Mr. Hersey's trip along the Alaskan coast during the summer of 1914 was undertaken in the interest of Mr. A. C. Bent to obtain data for his continuation of the 'Life Histories of North American Birds.' Notes on 105 species are contained in the list of which 74 are water-birds.

The "repeated occurrence" of Fisher's Petrel (*Æstrelata fisheri*) was one of the pleasures of the trip, but the scarcity of the Emperor Goose and Spectacled Eider seems to point to the greatly increased rarity of these species in the near future.

The practice of treating two species collectively in the annotated list is unfortunate as it leads to ambiguity. On p. 13 for instance it is impossible to tell whether the four gulls that followed the vessel to Ketchikan included any Western Gulls or whether they were all Herring Gulls. If any of the former were present the occurrence constitutes a new record for Alaska.

Mr. Hersey's list is a welcome addition to the literature of the Alaskan coast and the western arctic region, and the extensive notes obtained for Mr. Bent will doubtless add largely to the accuracy and interest of his accounts of the northwestern waterfowl.— W. S.

**Brooks' 'Notes on Birds from East Siberia and Arctic Alaska.'**<sup>2</sup>— Messrs. W. Sprague Brooks and Joseph Dixon accompanied the 'Polar Bear' hunting party, organized by graduates of Harvard University in the spring of 1913, and remained in the Arctic regions for some fifteen months, making collections for the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy. The paper before us comprises Mr. Brooks' report on the birds, of which 160 species were observed. Notes of interest on the habits and distribution of many of the species are presented. Five forms are considered worthy of differentiation. A gull from Ellesmere Land allied to *L. kumlieni* is named *Larus thayeri* (p. 373) in honor of Col. J. E. Thayer through whose generosity the collection was obtained. The other new forms are *Histrionicus h. pacificus* (p. 393), Cape Shipunski, Kamechatka, including all the Pacific coast Harlequins; *Ædemia deglandi dixonii* (p. 393), Humphrey Pt., Alaska; *Nannus hiemalis semidiensis* (p. 400), Semidi Islands, Alaska; *Leucosticte grisconucha maxima* (p. 405), Commander Islands.

Messrs. Brooks and Dixon deserve much credit for securing so many interesting specimens and for visiting so many localities. They have added materially to our knowledge of the birds of the great northwestern arctic coast.— W. S.

<sup>1</sup> A List of the Birds Observed in Alaska and Northeastern Siberia During the Summer of 1914. By F. Seymour Hersey. Smithsonian Misc. Collns. Vol. 66, No. 2, pp. 1-33. 1916.

<sup>2</sup> Notes on Birds from East Siberia and Arctic Alaska. By W. Sprague Brooks. Bull. Mus. Comp. Zoöl. Vol. LIX, No. 5. pp. 361-413. September, 1915.